Application No.: 09/843,199
Office Action Dated: June 29, 2005

PATENT REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Status Of The Application

Claims 1 through 52 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 through 52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,870,611 (London Shrader et al.).

Claims 1, 11, 27, 35, 43, and 52 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 3, 17, 33, 41, and 50 have been cancelled.

Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks.

The Claimed Systems and Methods

Applicants have noted that "data objects occupy space in a computer memory, even when there is no immediate need for a computer system to retrieve them from the memory." (Application, page 2, Il. 1-5). These data objects occupy memory space that could be used by new data objects. Therefore "[i]t is desirable for the computer system employing the memory to remove from the memory data that is not presently being used, in order to make room for new data." (Id., page 2, Il. 5-9). Accordingly, Applicants have provided "an application manager for controlling various operations related to the installation of data objects." (Id., page 4, Il. 1-13). "[P]rior to executing one of the installation operations, a data object must notify the application manager of the impending operation. Furthermore, after completing the installation operation, the application finalizes the operation by committing it with the application manager." (Id., page 4, Il. 25-page 5, Il. 1-5).

For example, a data object that requests to be installed may provide the application manager with certain information about itself including the estimated size of the files to be installed (Id., page 5, Il. 14-18). If the application manager determines that there is not enough space to load the files it may conduct a downsize operation on one of the previously installed data objects (Id., page 5, Il. 20-24). Thereafter, the data object that has requested to be installed will be provided, upon request, a location to save the files (Id., page 5, Il. 24-25). When the data object completes the installation it notifies the application manager that the operation is complete (Id., page 6, Il. 1-3).

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In accord with the application disclosure, claim 1 is directed to a method of communicating with an application comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation,

receiving from the application a call to initialize an application installation operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation; and

if the application installation operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application installation operation.

Similarly, claim 11 is directed to a method of communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application install operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application install operation;

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application install operation; and

if the application install operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application installation operation.

Claim 27 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application uninstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application uninstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application uninstall operation; and

if the application uninstall operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application uninstall operation.

Claim 35 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

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receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application downsize operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application downsize operation;

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application downsize operation; and

if the application downsize operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application downsize operation.

Claim 43 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application reinstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application reinstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application reinstall operation; and

if the application reinstall operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application reinstall operation.

Claim 52 is directed to a system for managing application installation operations, comprising:

a computing device operable to read programmed instructions; and

programmed instructions for performing a method of communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize an application installation operation;

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation; and

if the application installation operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application installation operation. DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0245 / 154792.2

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In order for a reference to anticipate the above-listed claims, the reference must disclose each of the claimed features including those emphasized. In particular, an anticipating reference must teach if the application installation operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application installation operation. Applicant's undersigned representative respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach these features.

The Prior Art Does Not Anticipate Or Render The Claims Obvious

London Shrader et al. discloses sysfems and methods for defining and constructing a proposed plan object for installing software across a network (London Shrader et al., col. 1, ll. 18-22). The invention reduces the network installation planning process into a series of discrete objects and provides an object oriented, graphical means by which administrators can set-up and view applications that are selected to be installed on a set of workstations across the LAN (Id., col. 2, ll. 7-13). The administrator can then use the object oriented representation to generate the files needed for the actual physical installation (Id., col. 2, ll. 13-15). The system provides administrators with a high level view of the network installation plan, shielding them from the physical implementation and leaving them to concentrate on the building blocks for the plan (Id., col. 2, ll. 15-19).

Claims 1, 11, 27, 35, 43, and 52 were amended to include features of now cancelled claims 3, 17, 33, 41, and 50. In the rejection to those claims, the office action alleges that London Shrader et al. teaches if the application installation operation is not executed successfully by the application, receiving a call to abort the application installation operation at column 5, lines 53 through 54. (Office Action, page 3). To the contrary, the cited portion of London Shrader et al. merely discloses "[u]tility procedures which track the current state of installation [and] ensure that each step is running in the proper sequence." (London Shrader et al., col. 5, 1l. 53-54). There is no mention of receiving a call anywhere in the cited portion, and there is certainly no mention of receiving a call to abort the application installation operation. London Shrader et al. simply does not disclose receiving a call to abort the application installation operation. It is therefore respectfully suggested that he Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow claims 1, 11, 27, 35, 43, and 52.

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Claims 2, 4 through 10, 12 through 16, 18 through 26, 28 through 32, 34, 36 through 40, 42, and 44 through 49, and 51 are all variously dependant on independent claims 1, 11, 27, 35, and 43 and are therefore similarly patentable for at least the same reasons. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant's undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding office action and issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Date:

8/25/05

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